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Peace Corps Policy Views Are Championed by Vaughn

Associated Press

Director Jack Vaughn of the Peace Corps says his agency's volunteers should not be required to support U.S. foreign policy when serving overseas. Rep. Otto E. Passman (D-La.) thinks otherwise.

In fact, Passman, a longtime critic of the Peace Corps, says Vaughn should either resign or be fired because he won't require volunteers overseas to support U.S. foreign policy, especially on Vietnam.

The exchange came June 20 when the director appeared before the Louisiana congressman's Appropriations subcommittee. The testimony was made public yesterday.

Passman implied the Peace Corps volunteers are not mature and Vaughn retorted,

"Ours are grown up, Sir, in every case."

This exchange followed:

Passman: "If I had a chartered plane, I would have brought back some of those volunteers from Bangkok when I was out there recently. I was shocked to hear them expressing themselves vocally in opposition to our Vietnam policy."

Vaughn: "Dean Rusk has said repeatedly that Peace Corps volunteers are not a part of U.S. foreign policy, not to be considered as such, and if they were—"

Passman: "Why do you not take the initiative as an American, and recommend that we amend the legislation or policy so these kids—a lot of them spoiled, disappointed in

love, or something—will go out and take the same position as the State Department people?"

Later, Passman insisted that the volunteers should be just like soldiers or State Department overseas personnel but Vaughn said two completely different concepts were involved.

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(AP)—Starting July
Paul VI will hold
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